

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CU-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
AGRE-00 OES-06 EUR-12 /119 W
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R 221512Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4576

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG

SUBJECT: OCAM HEADS OF STATE MEETING

REF KIGALI 128, 139 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: OCAM SURVIVED POORLY-ATTENDED CHIEFS OF
STATE CONFERENCE HELD FEB 9-10, 1977. RWANDA RE-
ELECTED PRESIDENT, AND COTONOU SELECTED AS SITE NEXT REGULAR CHIEFS
OF STATE MEETING FEB 1979. EXTRA-ORDINARY CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING
IN DAKAR, APR 77, WILL DISCUSS OCAM'S FUTURE ORGANIZATION.
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WM CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING OF OF ORGANISATION COMMUNE AFRICAINE
ET MAURICIENNE (OCAM) CONCLUDED FEB 10 AFTER MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL
MEETING WHOSE MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENT WAS SURVIVAL AS AN ECONOMIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, ONLY 3 HEADS OF STATE, JAMES
MANCHAM, PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES, NEWLY ELECTED OCAM
MEMBER, PRES HOUPHOUET BOIGNY OF IVORY COAST, AND PRES JEVENAL

HABYARIMANA, ATTENDED AFTER LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION BY PRES
LEOPOLD SENGHOR DUE TO BRONCHITIS.

3. FUTURE MEETINGS: RWANDA WAS REELECTED PRESIDENT OF OCAM FOR
NEXT 2 YEARS UNTIL ORDINARY CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING IN COTONOU IN
FEB 79. RWANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER REELECTED PRESIDENT COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS AND OCAM SEC-GEN MOUTIA RE-APPOINTED. A SPECIAL CHIEFS
OF STATE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN DAKAR IN APR 77, PRESUMABLY TO
DISCUSS CONTINUING PROBLEM OF RELATIONSHIP OF GENERAL OCAM ORGAN-
IZATION TO ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO WHICH MANY FORMER MEMBERS
BELONG.

4. PRINCIPAL PROJECTS: SUMMIT CONFERENCE REVIEWED A NUMBER OF
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS BEGUN IN BANGUI IN 1975. A CONVENTION FOR THE
CREATION OF A GUARANTEE AND COOPERATION FUND WAS RATIFIED. FUND
HEADQUARTERS WILL BE IN COTONOU; THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WILL BE
APPOINTED BY NIGER. ATTENTION WAS ALSO GIVEN TO GENERALIZED SYSTEM
OF PREFERENCES WHICH OCAM STATES HAVE NOT USED TO FULL ADVANTAGE.
SECRETARY GENERAL WAS REQUESTED DEVELOPE MEANS WHICH WOULD
FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF GSP-BASED SCHEMES PROPOSED BY
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITH WHICH OCAM MEMBERS TRADE.

TM CONTINUING BUSINESS: IN OTHER ACTIONS, THE CHIEFS OF STATE
CONFERENCE:

- ESTABLISHED A BUDGET OF 767, 585, 150 CFA FOR 1977
 - RECOMMENDED OCAM COOPERATION WITH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF
WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES ON MARITIME TRANS-
PORT TO DEVELOP BETTER SHIPPING FACILITIES
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A ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATION OF 1976 LOME SEMINAR ON ADMINIS-
TRATION IN MEMBER STATES

- REQUESTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO IDENTIFY NEW SOURCES
OF FINANCING FOR THE EDUCATION INSTITUTES ESTABLISHED IN
1975 (INSTITUT AFRICAIN ET MAURICIEN DE BILINGUISME,
INSTITUT AFRICAIN ET MAURICIEN DE STATISTIQUE ET D'ECONOMIE
APPLIQUE, AND ECOL D'ARCHITECTURE ET D'URBANISME)
- AGREED TO STUDY WAYS TO INCREASE CONTACTS AMONG YOUTH OF
MEMBER STATES
- AND ESTABLISHED COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
RESEARCH TO COORDINATE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES DONE IN THE
MEMBER STATES.

6. MEETING IN DAKAR: WHERE GOES OCAM?: FINAL COMMUNIQUE
ANNOUNCED SENEGAL TO PREPARE REPORT ON RELATIONSHIP OF GENERAL
OCAM ORGANIZATION TO ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES FOR APR 1977
MEETING. HOW THIS QUESTION IS FINALLY ANSWERED WILL REVEAL
MUCH ABOUT FUTURE OF OCAM. IN HIS ADDRESS AT OPENING
CEREMONIES, PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY DISCUSSED QUESTION AS

HE TOUCHED ON OCAM'S PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS; WHO SHALL BE OCAM MEMBERS (AS OPEN AS POSSIBLE WITH FORMER MEMBERS WELCOME TO RETURN); WHAT SHALL ITS ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES BE (INCREASED DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AMONG MEMBERS); AND WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OCAM AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO WHICH MANY FORMER MEMBERS STILL BELONG (FLEXIBILITY, PRAGMATISM, AND OPENESS). GENERAL QUESTION SIMULTANEOUSLY ILLUSTRATES IMPORTANCE OCAM MEMBERS ATTACH TO SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND PRACTICAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN HOST OF TECHNICAL/DEVELOPMENTAL FIELDS, AS WELL AS DESIRE OF THOSE SAME MEMBERS TO FORGE A COHESIVE FRANCOPHONE ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE OAU FRAMEWORK WHICH CAN SERVE TO REINFORCE MEMBERS' INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. ANSWER SEEMS TO BE: KEEP OCAM SUPPLE, APOLITICAL, AND AS OPEN AS POSSIBLE, PERMITTING FORMER MEMBERS TO REMAIN ACTIVE IN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND AT SAME TIME KEEPING DOORS OPEN TO RENEWED FULL MEMBERSHIP AND NEW MEMBERSHIPS OF OTHER FRANCOPHONE STATES (SUCH AS BURUNDI WHICH HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OBSERVERS AT MEETING).
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